

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church and School (LCMS)

Est. 1864



Pastors:

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Important Announcements

For those who watch services on Live-Stream
during the Coronavirus Pandemic

Maintaining Piety when Worshiping at Home: The best way to get the most out of this temporary set-up is to keep things in your household as regular as possible:

- Print the bulletin or use your hymnals
- Dress like you would dress for church
- Stand when we stand, sit when we sit
- Sing along with the hymns
- Watch at the live time, Sunday morning, setting it aside as first priority instead of looking for whatever time is most convenient for you
- Limit the distractions, toys, and tech so that the time is truly "sacred" (set-apart) for Christ and His means of grace

These ideas can help you focus on the Service of the Word and will also help you prevent bad habits from developing during our temporary suspension of Divine Services.

The Commemoration of Saint Ambrose

“Saints & Martyrs Praise the Thrice-Coming Lord”

December 7, 2022

Service of Light

Preacher: Pr. Matthew Moss

Liturgist: Pr. Matthew Johnson

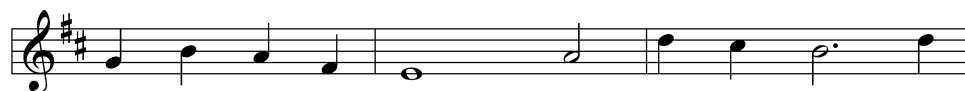
Kantor: Dr. Katie Moss

Special Note for the Live Stream: Because the Absolution and Communion are sacramental acts that require the in-person interaction of penitent & pastor and communicant & pastor, we will not Live Stream those portions of the Divine Service. If you desire a more detailed explanation of the status of the controversies in Christianity and the LCMS around these acts that have led us to this decision on this practice, your pastors are more than willing to discuss it with you.

874 O Splendor of God's Glory Bright



1 O Splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, O Thou that
2 Come, ver - y Sun of truth and love; Pour down Thy
3 With prayer the Fa - ther we im - plore: O Fa - ther,
4 To guide what-e'er we no - bly do, With love all



bring - est light from light, O Light of Light, light's
ra - diance from a - bove And shed the Ho - ly
glo - rious ev - er - more, We plead with Thee for
en - vy to sub - due, To give us grace our



liv - ing spring, O Day, all days il - lu - min - ing:
Spir - it's ray On all we think or do or say.
grace and pow'r To con - quer in temp - ta - tion's hour,
wrongs to bear, To make ill for - tune turn to fair.



Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia!

5 On Christ, the true bread, let us feed;
Let Him to us be drink indeed;
And let us taste with joyfulness
The Holy Spirit's plenteousness.
Alleluia!

△ 6 All laud to God the Father be;
All praise, eternal Son, to Thee;
All glory to the Spirit raise
In equal and unending praise.
Alleluia!

Text: Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; (sts. 1, 3–4, 6): tr. Robert S. Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.; (sts. 2, 5): tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1904, alt.
Tune: Stephen R. Johnson, 1966
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L Jesus Christ is the Light of the world,

C the light no darkness can o - ver - come.

L Stay with us, Lord, for it is eve - ning,

C and the day is almost o - ver.

L Let Your light scatter the dark - ness

C and il - lu - mine Your Church.

Phos Hilaron

LSB 244

L Joy - ous light of glo - ry:

C of the im - mor - tal Fa - ther; heav - en - ly, ho - ly,

bless - ed Je - sus Christ. We have come to the

set - ting of the sun, and we look to the eve - ning light.

We sing to God, the Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it:

You are wor - thy of be - ing praised with pure voic - es for -

ev - er. O Son of God, O Giv - er of life:

the u - ni - verse pro - claims Your glo - ry.

Thanksgiving for Light

LSB 245

L Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, king of the u - ni - verse,
who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of
fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ;
may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path;
for You are mer - ci - ful, and You love Your whole cre - a - tion
and we, Your creatures, glo - ri - fy You, Father, Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it.
C A - men.

Psalm 141

LSB 245

C Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,
the lift - ing up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.
I O Lord, I call to You; come to me quick - ly; hear my voice
when I cry to You. **C** Let my prayer rise be - fore You as in - cense,

the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

II Set a watch be-fore my mouth, O Lord, and guard the door of my lips.

I Let not my heart in-cline to an-y e-vil thing;

let me not be oc-cu-pied in wick-ed-ness with e-vil-do-ers.

II But my eyes are turned to You, O God; in You I take ref-uge.

Strip me not of my life. C Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and

to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it; as it was in

the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A-men.

Let my prayer rise be-fore You as in-cense,

the lift-ing up of my hands as the eve-ning sac-ri-fice.

L Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

Psalm

Psalm 25:1-7

⁴Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
teach me | your paths.

¹To you, | O LORD,*
I lift | up my soul.

²O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be | put to shame;*
let not my enemies exult | over me.

³Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;*
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.
⁴Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
teach me | your paths.
⁵Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my sal- | vation;*
for you I wait all the | day long.
⁶Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,*
for they have been | from of old.
⁷Remember not the sins of my youth or my trans- | gressions;*
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, | O LORD!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
⁴Make me to know your ways, | O LORD;*
teach me | your paths.

Epistle

2 Timothy 4:1–8

L A reading from 2 Timothy, chapter 4.

¹I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ²preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

⁶For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:13–19

L A reading from Matthew, chapter 5.

¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people’s feet.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. ¹⁸For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass from the Law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore whoever relaxes one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

L In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

332 Savior of the Nations, Come



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
 2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
 3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
 4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
 of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
 vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
 king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
 Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
 God was there up - on His throne.
 His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

5 God the Father was His source,
 Back to God He ran His course.
 Into hell His road went down,
 Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father's Son
 Who in flesh the vict'ry won.
 By Your mighty pow'r make whole
 All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
 Shines in glory through the night.
 Darkness there; no more resides;
 In this light faith now abides.

△ 8 Glory to the Father sing,
 Glory to the Son, our king,
 Glory to the Spirit be
 Now and through eternity.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; German version, Martin Luther, 1483–1546; (sts. 1–2): tr. William M. Reynolds, 1812–76; (sts. 3, 6): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 4–5, 8): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (st. 7): tr. Gifford A. Grobier, 1973
 Tune: Geistliche gesangk Buchleyn, 1524, Wittenberg, ed. Johann Walter
 Text (sts. 3, 6–7): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 4–5, 8): © 1978 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110003065
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Sermon: “The Light that Enlightens Is Coming (Again)”

Magnificat

LSB 248

Refrain



My soul mag - ni - fies the Lord, and my spir - it re -



joic - es in God, my Sav - ior. My soul mag - ni - fies the



Lord, and my spir - it re - joic - es in God, my Sav - ior.

1 For _____ He has re - garded
 2 For the Mighty One has done great things to me,
 3 He has shown strength with His arm;
 4 He has filled the hungry with good things,
 5 Glo - ry be to the Father and to the Son

1 the lowliness of His hand - maiden.
 2 and holy is His name;
 3 He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
 4 and the rich He has sent emp - ty a - way.
 5 and to the Ho - ly Spirit;

1 For be - hold, from this day
 2 and His mercy is on those who fear Him
 3 He has cast down the mighty from their thrones
 4 He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy
 5 as it was in the be - ginning,

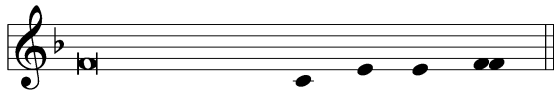
1 all generations will call me blessèd.
 2 from generation to gen - er - ation. *Refrain*
 3 and has exalt - ed the lowly.
 4 as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed for - ever.
 5 is now, and will be forever. A - men. *Refrain*

Sit

Prayer

Kneel/Stand

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.



L In peace let us pray to the Lord:



C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For [*names of synodical and district presidents*], for all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For [*name of president or monarch*], for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

L For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

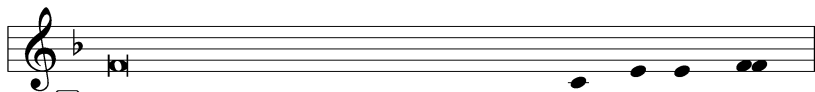
L For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

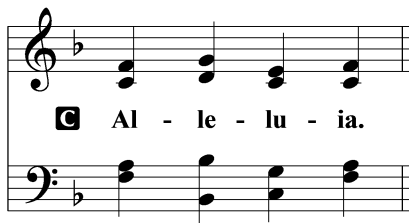
L For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

The prayers then continue:



L For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:



C Al - le - lu - ia.

L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.

L Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C To You, O Lord.

Collect of the Day

L O God, You gave Your servant Ambrose grace to proclaim the Gospel with eloquence and power. As bishop of the great congregation of Milan, he fearlessly bore reproach for the honor of Your name. Mercifully grant to all bishops and pastors such excellence in preaching and fidelity in ministering Your Word that Your people shall be partakers of the divine nature; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 251

L Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven,**
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Stand

Benedicamus

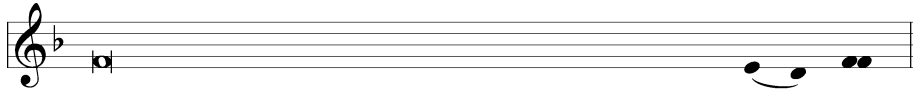
LSB 252

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 252



P The almighty and merciful Lord,
the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and pre - serve you.



G A - men.

890 O Blessed Light, O Trinity



1 O bless - ed Light, O Trin - i - ty, O ev - er -
2 To You our morn - ing song of praise, To You our
△ 3 All glo - ry be to God a - bove And to the



last - ing U - ni - ty: As now the fi - ery
eve - ning prayer we raise; We praise Your light in
Son, the Prince of love, And to the Spir - it,



sun de - parts, Send forth Your light in - to our hearts.
ev - 'ry age, The glo - ry of our pil - grim - age.
One in Three! We praise You, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; (st. 1): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 2–3): tr. Gracia Grindal, 1943
Tune: Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561
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Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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Saint Ambrose of Milan, Pastor and Hymnwriter

“Born in Trier in AD 340, Ambrose was one of the four great Latin Doctors of the Church (with Augustine, Jerome, and Gregory the Great). He was a prolific author of hymns, the most common of which is *Veni, Redemptor Gentium* (“Savior of the Nations, Come”). His name is also associated with Ambrosian Chant, a style of chanting the ancient liturgy that took hold in the province of Milan. While serving as a civil governor, Ambrose sought to bring peace among Christians in Milan who were divided into quarreling factions. When a new bishop was to be elected in AD 374, Ambrose addressed the crowd, and someone cried out, ‘Ambrose, bishop!’ The entire gathering gave their support. This acclaim of Ambrose, a thirty-four-year-old catechumen, led to his Baptism on December 7, after which he was consecrated bishop of Milan. A strong defender of the faith, Ambrose convinced the Roman emperor Gratian in AD 379 to forbid the Arian heresy in the West. At Ambrose’s urging, Gratian’s successor, Theodosius, also publicly opposed Arianism. Ambrose died on Good Friday, April 4, 397. As a courageous doctor and musician, he upheld the truth of God’s Word.”

Treasury of Daily Prayer, page 992-993